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5-31-00

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hisashi WATANABE, et al.

Appln. No. 09/361,118

Filed: July 27, 1999



Group Art Unit: 1755

Examiner: Unknown

For: ALUMINA SINTERED BODY AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. European Patent Application No. 0 678 489, published October 25, 1995.
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,411,583 issued May 2, 1995.
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,672,554 issued September 30, 1997.
4. U.S. Patent No. 4,799,601 issued January 24, 1989.
5. European Patent Application No. 0 708 065, published April 24, 1996.
6. Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 014, No. 562 (C-0788), published December 13, 1990
(corresponds to JPA 2-243561).

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7. Chemical Abstracts, Vol. 126, No. 5, February 3, 1997.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding Foreign Search Report citing such documents and indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24, 625

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: January 28, 2000